

Southern Regional Research Laboratory
New Orleans 19, Louisiana
October 18, 1948

To: Director and Laboratory Staff
From: Survey and Appraisal Section, Cotton Processing Division
Subject: SURVEY NOTES

1949 FARM OUTLOOK

A strong demand for most farm products is expected in 1949. If economic trends and government programs develop in accordance with current indications, prices to be received by farmers and cash receipts may average almost as high as in 1948. However, farm production costs are expected to remain high and net incomes to farm operators are likely to be less than in 1948. Present forces indicate, in total, a fairly stable level of economic activity in 1949. Foreign aid and growing expenditures for defense afford considerable assurance for a high level of demand, at least during the first half. There is a possibility of further price inflation.

Demand and Price Situation, BAE, Oct. 11, 1948

FARM INCOME

SRRL REGION'S SHARE OF TOTAL U.S. INCOME GROWS; BUT ITS PERCENTAGE OF U.S. FARM INCOME DECLINES

The total income from all sources of states in the SRRL region was \$24.4 billions in 1947 as compared with \$21.9 billions in 1946 and \$8.5 billions in 1940. These states received 12.8% of the total U.S. income in 1946 and 1947 as compared with 11.1 percent in 1940 and 10.4 percent in 1929. Farm income in the SRRL region totaled \$5.5 billions in 1947, as compared with \$4.3 billions in 1946 and \$1.7 billions in 1940, but the region's percentage of national farm income was slightly lower than prewar. (Table 1).

Table 1.- Total agricultural income, United States and Southern Laboratory Region, 1940, 1945-47

Year	United States	SRRL region	SRRL region as % of U. S.
	Million Dollars	Million dollars	Percent
1940	9,109	1,749	19.2
1945	22,295	4,066	18.2
1946	24,864	4,343	17.5
1947	30,186	5,488	18.2

Compiled from The Farm Income Situation, BAE.

COTTON'S CONTRIBUTION TO SOUTHERN FARM INCOME INCREASES IN 1947

Cotton was significantly more important as a source of agricultural income in the SRRL region in 1947 than in 1946, contributing 32.2 percent as compared with 25.6 percent the year before. Rice increased slightly in importance, peanuts' percentage of the total remained unchanged, while sweetpotatoes declined, but all of these crops, together brought in only 5.8 percent of the total for 1947. Livestock and livestock products, as a group, continued to contribute more farm income, than cotton, as they have since the beginning of the war. See tables 2 and 3.

Table 2.- Contribution of various crops, livestock, and livestock products to the total cash receipts ^{1/} of farmers in the Southern Laboratory Region ^{2/}, 1925-47

	1925-29	1930-34	1935-39	1940-44	1946	1947
<u>Million dollars</u>						
<u>Averages</u>						
CROPS AND LIVESTOCK:	2,284.9	1,185.4	1,532.4	2,749.7	4,343.3	5,487.8
CROPS	1,759.8	856.8	1,044.3	1,753.3	2,724.7	3,540.3
Cotton lint....	1,163.7	492.2	540.3	783.4	958.0	1,508.1
Cotton seed....	130.6	56.4	86.2	134.2	151.8	258.1
Total cotton..	1,294.3	548.6	626.5	917.6	1,109.8	1,766.2
Truck crops....	16.7	61.1	13.4	141.8	236.4	200.5
Wheat.....	78.1	34.8	51.9	94.0	228.9	410.7
Tobacco.....	26.8	16.6	38.4	57.9	146.7	131.8
Oranges.....	26.5	24.4	33.3	74.1	139.2	84.0
Peanuts.....	15.0	11.9	21.0	74.0	121.1	147.9
Rice.....	31.9	19.7	28.5	70.5	101.4	140.3
Grapefruit....	17.3	14.1	17.3	42.2	71.4	46.7
Corn.....	24.9	9.8	16.7	36.4	70.7	81.4
Grain Sorghums..	6.0	3.3	4.0	23.8	68.4	88.2
Peaches.....	16.3	10.2	6.2	19.6	41.8	29.3
Sweetpotatoes..	11.6	9.3	10.9	17.8	35.2	29.9
Potatoes.....	17.9	11.5	12.5	22.4	29.7	35.3
Other.....	116.5	81.5	103.7	161.2	324.0	348.1
LIVESTOCK.....	525.1	328.6	488.1	996.4	1,618.6	1,947.5
Cattle, calves..	173.6	96.1	167.8	333.4	630.2	826.6
Dairy products..	125.8	122.4	125.9	206.9	313.3	352.2
Hogs.....	68.2	34.9	66.2	165.7	225.0	315.2
Eggs.....	78.3	41.2	52.4	123.1	174.1	192.1
Chickens.....	38.7	23.2	24.6	76.3	145.7	138.0
Wool, Mohair....	19.7	14.2	25.2	42.1	42.8	38.3
Sheep, lambs....	7.8	5.8	10.8	21.8	36.1	37.7
Turkeys.....	3/	8.9	10.9	18.8	31.3	27.7
Other.....	13.0	1.9	4.3	8.3	20.1	20.2

1/ From Farm Marketings; does not include government payments.

2/ Includes S.C., Ga., Fla., Ala., Miss., Ark., La., Okla., and Texas.

3/ Turkeys included in "Other" for 1925-29 average.

Compiled from "Farm Income Situation, 1944-47" (BAE), "Cash Receipts from Farming by States and Commodities, 1924-44" (BAE).

Table 3.- Importance of various crops, livestock, and livestock products as sources of cash farm income from marketings in the Southern Laboratory Region, 1925-1947

	1925-29	1930-34	1935-39	1940-44	1946	1947
<u>Percent</u>						
<u>Averages</u>						
CROPS AND LIVESTOCK:	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
CROPS.....	77.0	72.3	68.2	63.8	62.7	64.5
Cotton lint.....	50.9	41.5	35.3	28.5	22.1	27.5
Cottonseed.....	5.7	4.8	5.6	4.9	3.5	4.7
Total cotton.....	56.6	46.3	40.9	33.4	25.6	32.2
Truck crops.....	3.4	5.1	4.8	5.2	5.4	3.7
Wheat.....	3.4	2.9	3.4	3.4	5.3	7.5
Tobacco.....	1.2	1.4	2.5	2.1	3.4	2.4
Oranges.....	1.2	2.0	2.2	2.7	3.2	1.5
Peanuts.....	.6	1.0	1.4	2.7	2.7	2.7
Rice.....	1.4	1.7	1.9	2.6	2.3	2.6
Grapefruit.....	.8	1.2	1.1	1.5	1.8	.9
Corn.....	1.1	.8	1.1	1.3	1.6	1.5
Grain sorghums..	.2	.3	.3	.9	1.6	1.6
Peaches.....	.7	.9	.4	.7	1.0	.5
Sweetpotatoes...	.5	.8	.7	.6	.8	.5
Potatoes.....	.8	1.0	.8	.8	.7	.6
Other.....	5.1	6.9	6.7	5.9	7.5	6.3
LIVESTOCK	23.0	27.7	31.8	36.2	37.3	35.5
Cattle, calves..	7.6	8.1	11.0	12.1	14.5	15.1
Dairy products..	5.5	8.6	8.2	7.5	7.2	6.4
Hogs.....	3.0	2.9	4.3	6.0	5.2	5.7
Eggs.....	3.4	3.5	3.4	4.5	4.0	3.5
Chickens.....	1.7	2.0	1.6	2.8	3.4	2.5
Wool, mohair...:	.9	1.2	1.6	1.5	1.0	.7
Sheep, lambs...:	.3	.5	.7	.8	.8	.7
Turkeys.....	1/	.7	.7	.7	.7	.5
Other.....	.6	.2	.3	.3	.5	.4

1/ Turkeys included in "Other" for 1925-29 average.

Based on data given in table 2.

WHEAT SUPERSEDES COTTON AS MOST IMPORTANT U.S. CASH CROP

The dollar importance of various crops and livestock products on a nationwide basis are shown in table 4. As is indicated, cotton was replaced by wheat during 1946 and 1947 from its traditional position as the United States' most important cash crop. Smaller percentage gains were made by corn, soybeans, and flaxseed.

Table 4.- Importance of various crops, livestock, and livestock products as sources of cash farm income from marketing in the United States, 1925-47

	1925-29	1930-34	1935-39	1940-44	1946	1947
Averages						
Million dollars						
CROPS AND LIVESTOCK.....	10,938	6,358	973	4,789	24,864	30,186
Percent						
CROPS.....	47.1	43.6	43.0	42.1	44.9	45.4
Cotton lint.....	12.2	9.0	8.2	6.6	5.1	6.3
Cottonseed.....	1.4	1.1	1.3	1.1	0.8	1.1
Total cotton.....	13.6	10.1	9.5	7.7	5.9	7.4
Peanuts.....	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.7
Sweetpotatoes.....	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2
Rice.....	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.5
Wheat.....	7.5	4.9	5.7	5.2	6.7	8.6
Tobacco.....	2.3	2.9	3.4	3.1	3.8	3.4
Corn.....	3.5	3.0	3.0	3.3	3.3	4.4
Soybeans.....	0.1	0.1	0.4	1.4	1.8	1.8
Flaxseed.....	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.7
Grain sorghums.....	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.4
Sugarcane (sugar, syrup)	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2
Truck crops.....	3.2	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.9	4.0
Other field crops.....	6.9	6.9	6.1	5.8	6.7	6.3
Citrus fruits 1/.....	1.5	2.1	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.1
Other fruit & tree crops	4.0	4.5	4.0	4.5	5.4	3.4
Other crops 2/.....	2.9	3.1	2.8	2.1	2.1	2.3
LIVESTOCK AND PRODUCTS..	52.9	56.4	57.0	57.9	55.1	54.6
Wool.....	0.8	0.9	1.1	1.0	0.5	0.4
Mohair.....	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	3/	3/
All other.....	52.0	55.4	55.8	56.9	54.6	54.2
	:	:	:	:	:	:

1/ Includes grapefruit, oranges, lemons, lime.

2/ Maple syrup, sugar; other forest products; greenhouse, nursery.

3/ Less than .05%

LINT COTTON

COTTON PRICE REMAINS SLIGHTLY ABOVE LOAN LEVEL

The price of cotton is hovering about a half cent above the loan level of 30.74 cents (approx. 10 market basis). As mentioned last month, Middling 15/16-inch

cotton is now as low in price as viscose rayon staple on a delivered-at-mill basis. Cotton fabric prices dropped slightly from July to August, generally, but mill margins increased slightly.

Table 5.- Prices of raw cotton, rayon staple, and cotton fabrics, and cotton mill margins, in cents.

	Oct. 8, 1948	August 1948	July 1948	August 1947	Average 1945
Cotton Middling 15/16", delivered at mills, lb.	32.91	33.21	35.61	36.51	23.76
Rayon, viscose staple, equivalent price 1/ lb.	32.93	32.93	32.04	28.48	22.25
Cotton fabrics, average 17 constructions, Price for cloth from 1 lb. of cotton 2/	-	77.06	79.04	90.16	43.21
Mill margin 3/	-	46.29	45.58	56.12	20.86
Sheeting, 37" 4.00, yd. 4/	16.50	16.50	16.50	21.00	11.10
Osnaburg, 36" 2.35, yd. 4/	21.50	21.75	22.00	22.69	14.89
Printcloth, 38-1/2" 5.35, yd. 4/	16.00	17.50	18.00	20.63	9.60
	:T	:	:	:	:

1/ Cost to mill of same amount of usable fiber as supplied by one pound of cotton (rayon price x.89).

2/ Price of approximate quantity of cloth obtainable from a pound of cotton with adjustments for saleable wastes (Cotton Branch, PMA).

3/ Difference between cloth prices and prices (10-market average) of cotton assumed to be used in each kind of cloth (Cotton Branch, PMA).

4/ From Daily Mill*Stock Reporter.

DOMESTIC COTTON CONSUMPTION EXPECTED TO BE LOWER DURING 1948-49; UP IN AUGUST

Cotton consumption and mill activity climbed during August, but the BAE expects (Demand and Price Situation) U. S. consumption during the 1948-49 crop year to be less than the 9.3 million bales consumed during 1947-48 due to declining exports, increased rayon production, and filling of inventories.

Table 6.- Cotton consumption and stocks, and spindle hours in cotton mills

	August 1948	July 1948	June 1948	August 1947
Consumption, bales	728,732	627,393	801,142	710,601
On hand, 1,000 bales	2,970	2,808	3,415	1,987
Active spindle hours, billions	9.4	7.9	10.3	9.0
Spindle activity, percent of 80-hour capacity 1/	119.6	101.3	130.9	119.4
	:	:	:	:

1/ Includes activity on fibers other than cotton, totaling 0.6 to 0.7 billion spindle hours for each month shown.

From Census reports.

WORLD COTTON STOCKS DECLINE BUT PRODUCTION INCREASES THIS YEAR

World cotton production is expected to total 29.5 million bales in 1948-49, 4.4 million bales more than in 1947-48, and is expected to exceed consumption by nearly 1 million bales during the current crop year. World stocks declined

from 17.3 million bales on August 1, 1947 to about 13.7 million bales on August 1st this year.

Foreign Crops & Markets, Oct. 4, 1948, p. 261.

MIDDLE GRADES PREDOMINATE IN THIS YEAR'S CROP; STAPLE UNCHANGED

This year's cotton crop so far has much less higher grades (SM and higher) and lower grades (LM and lower) than last year's and much larger proportions of Middling and Strict Low Middling. Staple length is about the same. Fifty-five percent of this year's carryover was Middling or higher, as compared with 48 percent last year, while 56 percent was over 1 inch in length, same as last year.

PMA releases, Sept. 23 and 24, 1948

MECHANIZATION OF COTTON INCREASING RAPIDLY

About 5% of this year's crop will be gathered by spindle type pickers, based on production of harvesting equipment, according to the National Cotton Council. The number of farm tractors in the 11 major cotton-producing states increased from 420,000 in 1945 to 580,000 in 1948, a 40% increase in 3 years. It is estimated that number of spindle type pickers will increase from 285 in 1947 to as many as 1,200 in 1948. Strippers jumped from 1,500 in 1945 to 5,000 in 1947.

Cotton Trade Journal, Oct. 1, 1948, p. 10.

AVERAGE COST OF MECHANIZED COTTON SAID TO BE 20 CENTS PER POUND.

"Since everyone seemed to think mechanized cotton could be produced at a cost of 8-11 cents a pound, C. R. Sayre, former Delta Branch Experiment Station manager, pointed out that such cases were rare and that the average cost was 20 cents a pound for mechanically-picked cotton."

Cotton Trade Journal, Sept. 24, 1948, p. 10.

SOUTH TEXAS FARMERS SAVE BY MECHANICAL PICKING

In South Texas, \$2.25 per hundred pounds is being charged for machine picking cotton, against \$3.25 for hand picking. The machine picked-cotton is penalized one grade, because it is usually trashy or stained, and sells for \$5 less per bale, but the farmer, nevertheless, saves \$7.50 by letting the machine do the picking.

Cotton Trade Journal, Sept. 3, 1948.

VARIETY ACREAGES IN MISSISSIPPI DELTA GIVEN

Delta cotton this year is more uniform in length, has a higher tensile strength, and is somewhat longer in staple than normal. Tests on this year's DPL-15 average 89,000 pounds per square inch. Acreage planted to cotton of 1-5/32" and longer has declined from 17.4% in 1945 to 12.6% in 1948, with medium staples, 1-1/32 - 1-1/8", taking up the difference. Acreages planted to various varieties this year are shown in table 7.

Staple Cotton Review, September 1948

Table 7.- Acreages planted to various seed varieties in the Mississippi Delta, 1948

Variety	Staple	Arkansas		Louisiana		Mississippi	
	Inches	Acres	Percent	Acres	Percent	Acres	Percent
Ambassador	1-1-1/16	-	-	-	-	512	.5
Empire.....	1-1-1/16	2,425	.8	150	.5	3,245	
DPL-various.....	1-1/16	1,700	.6	300	1.0	27,440	3.3
DPL-14.....		258,025		10,763		502,415	
Stoneville 2-B.....	1-3/32	10,240	96.5	1,950	68.7	48,936	71.1
Cokers Wilt Resistant.....		3,270		7,820		31,327	
Bobshaw #1.....		-		-		7,176	
DPL-15.....	1-1/8	3,860	1.4	2,030	14.7	51,033	12.4
Coker various.....		-	-	2,361		51,165	
Coker staple.....		250	.1	1,440		63,689	
Delfos-531C.....	1-5/32	-	-	896	7.8	-	10.5
Delfos various.....		-	-	-		22,956	
Delfos-9169.....	1-3/16	-	-	2,180	7.3	10,534	
Delfos-651.....		-	-	-	-	490	1.4
Wilds.....	1-1/4 and +	1,600	.6	-	-	6,296	.8
TOTAL.....		281,370	100.0	29,890	100.0	822,214	100.0

Compiled from Staple Cotton Review, September 1948.

COTTON TEXTILE INDUSTRY

SOUTH SAID TO HAVE MANY COST ADVANTAGES FOR TEXTILE INDUSTRY

In connection with the closing of Textron's Nashua, N. H. mills, Royal Little said that the wage differential between North and South has been narrowed to about three or four cents an hour, but problem is now the workload differential. Power costs in Textron's Anderson, S. C. mill is now 7.1 mills per kilowatt hour against 12.4 mills at Nashua. Coal is nearer the South and coal costs are about half those in the North. Freight is 92 cents per 100 pounds to bring cotton to Nashua against 30 cents in the South. Unemployment compensation taxes in South Carolina are 69.2 cents and 77 cents in Tennessee for each dollar in Rhode Island. Local taxes per spindle are 58 cents and 53 cents respectively in Textron's two Anderson, S. C. mills; 42 cents at Cordova, Ala.; 38 cents at Charlotte, N. C.; and \$2.53 at Nashua.

Royal Little in hearing before Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee. Daily News Record, September 23, 1948, p. 1.

New England wage rates are 10% higher than in the South, but even if they were equal, "Costs of making fine cotton goods in the South would be 5% to 10% lower than in the North." (1) Unionization of New England workers involves expensive fringe demands like paid insurance and more paid holidays. (2) Electric power

rates in the North are 1-1/4 cents higher per kilowatt hour than the 7 to 8 mills in much of the South, and only 4 mills in T.V.A. territory. (3) Post-war increases of 25% to 30% in freight rates on raw cotton are more of a factor in New England than in the South since cotton must be hauled farther. With the textile boom "fading," the "go-south urge" of cotton mills is picking up where it left off.

Wall Street Journal, Sept. 24, 1948, p. 1.

CRANSTON BUILDS NEW SOUTHERN FINISHING PLANT

Cranston Print Works has announced construction of a new \$3,500,000 finishing plant to be located between Henderson and Asheville, N. C. Russel C. Smith, vice president, said 85% of their production is shipped from the South and that many of the garment manufacturers they serve have moved to southern locations. No curtailment in Rhode Island is planned at present but "we cannot tell what will follow later."

Cotton Trade Journal, Sept. 27, 1948, p. 1.

NAUMKEAG TO BUILD SOUTHERN MILL

Naumkeag Steam Cotton Mills has purchased a site at Penrose, N. C., and plans to erect a completely integrated unit consisting of carding, spinning, weaving, finishing, and a sheet and pillowcase factory. There will be 28,000 spindles and 70 looms, employing 400 to 500 people. Rudolph C. Dick, president, said company was not leaving New England but had been unable to operate all its equipment there for many years because of inadequate labor.

Wall Street Journal, Oct. 11, 1948, p. 4.

NEW SPRINGS MILL TO ELIMINATE ROVING FRAMES, TO HAVE HIGH SPEED CIRCULAR LOOMS

Plans have been completed by Springs Cotton Mills for a new 40,000 spindle plant at Lancaster, S. C. Engineers are Robert & Co., Atlanta, but the new mill will be built by Springs construction department. It will be brick, have no windows, be air conditioned throughout, and use indirect fluorescent lighting. Spinning will be the new super long draft type, eliminating use of any roving frames. Slashers will be a new hot air type developed by Springs at Chester and looms will be of the high speed circular type designed to run 720 picks a minute.

Daily News Record, Sept. 24, 1948, p. 1.

COTTON TEXTILE PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM SAID TO BE NEEDED

Russel T. Fisher, president of National Association of Cotton Manufacturers (New England) says a preparedness program on cottons is needed, including following (1) cotton textile industry must be made essential; (2) industry must have adequate supply of suitable cottons—including 2 years' supply of long staples, (3) sufficient textile machinery production should be assumed, (4) tariff reductions by State Department, hurting the combed goods industry, should be stopped; (5) essential types of combed goods should be stockpiled.

Journal of Commerce, Sept. 17, 1948, p. 1.

PATENT OFFICE DENIES APPEAL OF DAN RIVER MILLS ON "FIBER BONDING"

The Patent Office for the second time ruled that Dan River Mills could not use the word "Fiber bonded" as a trademark. Joe E. Daniels, assistant commissioner

of Patent Office, said: "It seems clear that the combination of these descriptive words preserves their natural meaning and indicates merely that the fibers of the yarn are bonded within the ordinary meaning of each word and that the combination must therefore be merely descriptive of the goods."

Daily News Record, Sept. 9, 1948, p.25.

KELLOGG NOW BUILDING LOOM ASSEMBLY LINE

M. W. Kellogg Company has manufactured "several hundred looms" on a pilot assembly line and shipped them to mills for operating tests, leading to "improvements in design." Mass production is planned in near future, according to H. R. Austin, president. A wide range of major equipment for the assembly line has been delivered and now is being erected.

Daily News Record, Sept. 9, 1948, p.30.

COTTON PRODUCTS

U. S. POPULATION INCREASE AND SHIFTS FAVOR COTTON USE

U. S. consumption of cotton should be vitally affected by the fact that there are 15 million more people in the U. S. than a decade ago. At same time, since 1940 the population gain in Florida has been 23%; California and Oregon, 42 percent; Washington, 36 percent; and Arizona, 29 percent. Most of these states are warm weather areas and should result in: (1) Gains in proportionate use of cotton and rayon, declines in wool; (2) Greater market for outdoor, sports apparel of mild weather type instead of the "more formal, heavy clothes of the East."

"Trends in Textiles" by Daniel Small,
Journal of Commerce, Sept. 1, 1948, p. 12.

COTTON TIRE FABRIC PRICES DECLINE

Lower cotton prices were reflected in a 4 cent drop in the price of cotton tire fabrics last month, decreasing rayon's margin of advantage.

Table 8.- Prices of cotton and rayon tire fabrics,
September 1 and October 1, 1948

Fabric	Fabric		Price per pound	Price per sq. yd.			
	Cord	weight					
	per sq.yd.	Sept. 1	Oct. 1	Sept. 1	Oct. 1		
Passenger car tires		Pounds	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
Cotton fabric.....	12/4/2	.86	76	72	65	62	
Rayon fabric.....	1650/2	.67	66.5	66.5	45	45	
Truck tires							
Cotton fabric.....	12/4/2	.86	1/	1/	1/	1/	1/
Rayon fabric.....	1100/2	.54	69	69	37	37	
Rayon fabric.....	2200/2	.81	65	65	53	53	

1/ No quotations received.

Based on reports from independent rubber companies for fabric constructions most heavily used.

CAULKINS DISCUSSES USE OF COTTON IN TIRES

"With the quality factor just about equal, the fact that it costs much less to produce tires with rayon cord than with cotton cord, gives rayon a decided edge," Edward W. S. Caulkins, U. S. Rubber Co. stressed at Fifth Annual Spinner-Breeder Conference today. "The usual passenger car tire takes about 15 percent less rayon cord than the amount of cotton cord required to make the same tire. If made with rayon, it also takes a little less rubber because the cord layers can be made thinner for the same strength.....About one-eighth of the cotton we buy is eventually thrown out as waste. In contrast, manufacturing waste in manufacturing rayon cord is little if any over 1 percent." Mr. Caulkins noted that U. S. Rubber plans to continue operation of its 8 spinning mills with their total of 150,000 spindles, if not on tire cord, then on other products that will use cotton or blends of cotton with other fibers. Fully one-third of the rubber industry's production is in products other than tires. "Also all tires are built with cotton chafer fabrics. The tire industry uses more than 100,000 bales of cotton for this purpose alone."

Daily News Record, Sept. 23, 1948, p. 1.

NYLON NOW USED FOR PASSENGER CAR TIRES

Airplane tires have long used nylon cord, but now, it also is used by one producer in passenger car tires. It appears in the top line at no increase in price over rayon. Base yarn is 210 denier. "It is conceivable that heavier deniers will later be spun for this use, although duPont has not so stated." Nylon-cord tires are made extra strong to offset the possibility of "growing."

Textile World, Sept. 1948, p. 111.

DEMAND FOR USED COTTON FLOUR BAGS OUTSTRIPS SUPPLY

Retail market investigators declare that demand for bakers' emptied hundred-weight cotton flour bags processed into tea towels and packaged for sale to consumers continues to run far ahead of supply, the National Cotton Council reports. The findings are borne out by the largest reclaimed bag dealer in the East (Service Textile Co., Newark, N. J.) who told Council representatives last week his stock pile was depleted entirely and the purchase of 250,000 bags from other dealers was necessary to continue business as usual. He further stated that in the last five years his inventory had never been less than 500,000 cotton flour bags.

The Cotton Trade Journal, Sept. 24, 1948, p. 7.

COTTON FLOUR BAGS: NET COST OF USING ONLY SLIGHTLY HIGHER THAN FOR USING PAPER; IN SOME INSTANCES MAY BE LESS

Prices of all types of flour bags increased from August to October. As indicated by table 9, the net cost of using new cotton flour bags, if the used bags are sold to second hand dealers, is currently about 3 cents per bag more than for paper. However, bakeries in some instances are selling their used bags at higher than the second-hand quotations shown, bringing the net cost down to as low as, or lower than, paper bags. In this connection, Sears catalog for fall and winter, 1948-49, advertises washed, bleached flour bags at 10 for \$3.48, which is higher than the original wholesale price for new bags.

Table 9.- Midmonth prices of 100-lb. flour bags
(Dollars per thousand)

	October 1948	August 1948	January 1948	September 1945	September 1940
<u>Prices, new, St. Louis 1/</u>	:	:	:	:	:
Cotton.....	238.00	236.25	321.70	173.50	83.65
Burlap.....	240.85	228.85	278.80	149.85	95.40
Paper.....	114.05	108.65	108.65	87.40	70.75
<u>Prices, second-hand, N.Y. 2/</u>	:	:	:	:	:
Cotton.....	105.00	105.00	165.00	110.00	32.50
Burlap.....	100.00	100.00	130.00	130.00	39.65
Paper.....	10.00	10.00	20.00	-	-
<u>Net cost, first user 3/</u>	:	:	:	:	:
Cotton.....	133.00	131.25	156.70	63.50	51.15
Burlap.....	140.85	128.85	148.80	19.85	55.75
Paper.....	104.05	98.65	88.65	87.40	70.75

1/ Cotton, 37" 4.00 sheeting cut 43"; burlap, 36" 10 oz. cut 43"; paper, 18 x 4-1/2 x 36-3/4"; all l.c.l. shipments. From a large bag manufacturer.

2/ For bakery run bags as given in Daily Mill Stock Reporter.

3/ New prices less second-hand prices.

COTTON BAGS TURNED INTO BOWLING SHIRTS

A new creation in sports attire has been developed from cotton "pretty-print" flour and feed bags—appearing in the form of bowling shirts as the 1948 season gets under way. According to J. H. Counce, Chase Bag Company branch manager, this new sports fashion was originated in 1947 by bowling teams sponsored by bakers whose flour comes in cotton "pretty-print" bags. From that beginning a colorful variety of bag patterns began to appear on the backs of softball teams, golfers, and other sport participants throughout the country.

Daily Mill Stock Reporter, Sept. 28, 1948, p. 7.

FUMIGATED BAGS SAID TO HAVE LESS FILTH THAN NEW ONES

At a meeting of the Canadian Used Textile Bag Dealers Association in Toronto in April it was reported that the Canadian government was considering a regulation to require all flour to be packed in new containers for sanitary reasons. To forestall this legislation it was proposed that the Industry erect fumigation plants on the large centers. "The Chairman stated that the National Bag & Burlap Association had supplied a laboratory report showing that neither the amount of filth, nor the bacterial content differ very greatly either in clean fumigated bags, unused cotton bags, or new paper bags; that in addition to this report the Chairman had secured a further laboratory analysis showing that as a matter of fact there is less filth in fumigated cotton bags than there is in new cotton bags."

Jute and Canvass Review, May 1948, p. 6.

COMBED COTTON IN NEW HASPEL SUMMER SUIT

Haspel Bros. is bringing out a "new exclusive suiting of finer denier Celanese yarns and combed cotton," called "Sir Ultra" to retail at \$32.50; wholesale at \$19.50. They also produce cotton seersuckers and cords at \$20.50 retail,

\$12.50 wholesale; their "Sir Preme" suit, a blend of Celanese and cotton now including sharkskin effects and narrow corded weaves, retailing for \$32.50 and wholesaling for \$13.50; and Irish linen suits, retailing for \$33.50 and wholesaling for \$20.00

Daily News Record, Sept. 9, 1948, p. 1.

COTTON'S PERCENTAGE IN PALM BEACH CLOTH DECLINES

Goodall has just announced a new Palm Beach cloth containing 38 percent mohair, 34 percent cotton, and 28 percent rayon. This compares with "its predecessor 'Airtone', " which contains 40 percent mohair, 46 percent cotton, and 14 percent rayon.

Daily News Record, Sept. 9, 1948, p. 1.

GOODALL CLAIMS ALL-RAYON NOT FABRIC FOR SUMMER SUITS

At Goodall Co.'s annual meeting, big emphasis was placed on washability and on "freshness" as important in summer suits. It was contended that "freshness" can be obtained only by washing, and it is insisted that all-rayon suits cannot be washed. "We think it (rayon) makes a decent pair of trousers, but doesn't make a man's suit," an official stated. According to Elmer Ward, president, "Next to the worsteds, we feel that blends of natural fibers with synthetic fibers best serve the purpose for which you sell these garments.

Daily News Record, Sept. 10, 1948, p. 1.

COMPETITIVE PRODUCTS

MOHAIR: OUTLOOK ANALYZED BY P.M.A.

According to a PMA report, slump in sales of mohair since 1945 has been due to declining demand, particularly for automobile and furniture upholstery due to (1) changes in style, (2) resistance to increasing costs in end-use products, (3) development of synthetic fiber substitutes and use of cheap wool. Quality of mohair clip is said to have declined, partly because dealers have offered a flat price regardless of quality. Situation for each use is as follows:

Worsted clothing fabrics.— A large amount of mohair used by at least 2 manufacturers in making light-weight fabrics for men's and women's suits—mohair adding wrinkle resistance, coolness, strength.

Woolen apparel fabrics.— Some manufacturers using less mohair since war because of cheaper imported wool. Substantial quantities going into overcoats, women's coats, and men's and women's suits—mohair imparting a luster which wool does not. Affected by worsted style trend.

Knitted outwear.— Style changes have already affected this intensely. Furniture.— Mohair considered basic fiber. Mohair not more subject to moths than other fabrics since upholstery is now mothproofed and latex backing is used. Mohair plush has declined because of trend to seat covers and desire to reupholster rather than purchase lifetime furniture. Synthetic fabrics were said to soil easier, to be harder to clean, and to wear out in a few years.

Automobiles.— "Manufacturers said use of mohair upholstery would be resumed as soon as the abnormal situation in the automobile market disappeared."

Railroad, buses, planes.— Mohair will continue but quantity involved is relatively small.

Daily News Record, Sept. 21, p. 6.

NYLON PRICES RAISED

Nylon prices were raised an average of 7 percent effective September 10th. Following is a history of price changes affecting 40 denier, 13 filament yarn:

	<u>Price per pound</u>
January 22, 1940.....	\$3.52
October 28, 1940.....	3.27
June 16, 1941.....	3.10
October 1, 1945.....	2.25
February 16, 1947.....	2.15
September 10, 1948.....	2.25

At present, 40 denier nylon yarn sells for \$2.25 as compared with \$1.78 for 40 denier viscose yarn, while 150 denier (68 filaments) nylon yarn sells for \$1.95 against \$0.77 for 150 denier (40 filaments) viscose, and \$0.80 for a carded cotton yarn of comparable size. Nylon 210 denier yarn, the size used for tire cord, now sells for \$1.65, 10 cents more than previously. This price compares with 55 to 57 cents per pound for rayon tire yarns.

PAPER BAG EXPANSION PLANNED

St. Regis Paper Co., with a substantial new tonnage of kraft paper available in 1949, will be able to expand in present bag markets and also enter new ones. The company has set its sights on the huge feed market. Other fields in which it expects to expand are citrus, meat trimming, carbon black, alfalfa meal, starch, and powdered milk.

Daily Mill Stock Reporter, Oct. 6, 1947, p.7.

RAYON INDUSTRIAL USES NAMED

"Rayon's coup in tire cord has stimulated replacement of cotton by rayon in a host of other rubber goods:

Hose up to 8 inches. - By end of 1949 rayon will be used almost exclusively. Formerly between 10 and 12 million pounds of textiles used.

45 pounds of rayon can replace 100 pounds of cotton.

V-belts. - Rayon permits either smaller size or 2 to 4 times more life.

Used in new Fords and Kaiser-Frazers.

Duck. - Today, pound for pound costs more than cotton. Duck mills not generally equipped for rayon. Some being used, including for hose.

Conveyor and transmission belts. - A 32 oz. rayon duck will show 650 pounds strength compared to 320 pounds for cotton, but "fabric tests" do not show such high tests, because of less "fabric assistance" in rayon.

Paper. - Replacing fine jute yarns, which are quite expensive, as reinforcing yarn.

Tire cord. - No agreement as to which size, 1100 d., 1650 d. and 2200 d. is best. Fourth size may be introduced.

Rayon also is used in bonded webs, for spinning with asbestos, as flock in typewriter ribbons, rug backings, tracing cloth, Venetian-blind tapes. Experimental uses include surgical gauze, absorbent cotton, sash cord, furniture stuffing, gaskets.

Textile World, Sept. 1948, p. 109.

RAYON: DU PONT DEVELOPS NEW CELLULOSE SPONGE TYPE YARN

The Yerkes Works of E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., Inc., Buffalo, has developed a cellulose sponge yarn, which is being made by the Cellophane division of the rayon department. Representing the culmination of three years of extensive research, the new product is being manufactured primarily for the mop industry but is expected also to fill other needs. It is shipped in bales containing continuous strands of the sponge yarn.

Daily News Record, Sept. 20, 1948, p. 22.

SARAN: VISKING STOPS MONOFILAMENT PRODUCTION

The Visking Corp. has discontinued production of "Viskord", an extruded saran filament. The firm, however, continues the manufacture of "Visqueen", a non-woven polyethylene tubing and sheeting. "Viskord" was first used during the war years in mosquito netting, screens, etc., as it withstood the rigors of tropical climates.

Daily News Record, Aug. 23, 1948.

(Saran filaments are still extruded by Firestone, National Plastics, etc.).

WOOL: NEW BURLAP COVERED BAILE DEVELOPED

One big American firm has already introduced a new type of standard size compressed wool bale, which is said to result in low packaging, handling, and storage costs. The burlap bale cover, while costing slightly more than a wool bag, contains three times the quantity of wool, and can be re-used more often than the present wool bag.

Jute and Canvas Review, May 1948, p. 7.

TEXTILE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

LONG STAPLE COTTON TEST PROGRAM SET UP

A long staple "clearing house" with Burt Johnson, National Cotton Council, as chairman has been established to facilitate spinning tests for new "eligible strains" of cotton. When a breeder has developed a strain to the point where he has 100 pounds of lint and desires a spinning test, he will notify the clearing house by submitting a complete fiber and spinning history of the strain. The clearing house will check to see if it meets spinners' requirements, and then will send the cotton to a mill or mills; which will spin the sample lots and furnish spinning data.

Percy S. Howe, Jr., president, American Thread Co.
in talk at Spinner-Breeder Conference
Daily News Record, September 22, 1948, p. 1.

RADIOISOTOPES USED IN TEXTILE STATIC STUDY

According to a report to Oak Ridge from Edward S. Gilfillan, Jr., consulting engineer, Manchester, Mass., radiocobalt (Co60) and radiostrontium (Sr89,90) have been used to collect electrostatic charges from textile materials and deliver the charge to measuring instruments, thus permitting measurement for the first time of absolute amounts electricity generated during textile processing. Some progress has been made toward commercial use of these materials for dissipating unwanted charges around textile machinery.

Daily News Record, Sept. 13, 1948, p. 21.

CLUETT PEABODY OPENS NEW RESEARCH CENTER, WORKING ON CREASE RESISTANCE AND LUSTER FOR COTTONS

Cluett, Peabody & Co. has just opened a new million-dollar laboratory and research plant at Troy, New York, with facilities for (1) quality testing, (2) direct product improvement, and for basic research of (1) a general nature, (2) chemical process research, and (3) textile research. Research divisions are supplemented by a machine shop and a drafting section. There is a complete unit for spinning, weaving, and finishing sample runs of cotton goods. Current projects include stabilization of rayons and woolens, development of crease resistance in cottons, and improvements in luster and appearance of cottons.

Daily News Record, Sept. 28, 1948, p.1.

RESEARCH ASSIGNMENTS MADE

Dr. Donald Hare has resigned presidency of Deering Milliken Research Trust, Stamford, Conn., to do consulting work in the field of audible sound. His duties are being assumed temporarily by Dr. Norman Armitage, vice-president.

Daily News Record, Sept. 24, 1948, p.2.

Lance Turner became an assistant to the director of Textile Research Institute on October 1st, and will act in a liaison capacity with industry. He graduated from Texas Tech in 1941 and since has been at West Point Mills, in the QM, and at the National Academy of Sciences. Paul C. Alford has joined the Textile Foundation and the Institute and is currently supervising installation of equipment for the wool research program. He formerly was with I.T.T. and Tennessee Eastman.

Daily News Record, Sept. 21, 1948, p. 2.

COTTONSEED AND PEANUTS

FATS AND OILS OUTLOOK

Fat-and-oil prices in the year beginning October 1948 will average moderately lower than a year earlier, largely as a result of increased domestic production. Prices of edible vegetable oils and coconut oil probably will drop more than prices of most other fats. Bumper 1948 crops of oilseeds assure a material increase in production of vegetable oils in 1948-49. (Table 10).

Fats and Oils Situation, BAE, Oct. 9, 1948.

BILLION POUND EXCESS OF PEANUTS TO BE CRUSHED, EXPORTED

The bumper 1948 peanut crop of 2.3 billion pounds is approximately 1.0 billion pounds larger than the quantity that will be used commercially for peanut butter, salted nuts and confectionery, used on farms, etc. Part of the excess 1.0 billion pounds will be crushed in the United States, and part will be exported, largely for crushing abroad. Commercial use of peanuts in edible products has declined substantially since the war because of a decline in military procurement and availability of sugar. In recent years the price of peanuts has been maintained at 90 percent of parity compared with a prewar average of 56 percent of parity.

Fats and Oils Situation, BAE, Oct. 9, 1948

Table 10.- Prices of vegetable oils and meals

	October 1948	September 1948	August 1948	October 1947	September 1946
<u>OILS 1/</u>					
Cottonseed oil.....	Oct. 4 18.0	Sept. 6 22.5	Cents per pound 21.3	21.4	12.5
Peanut oil.....	23.0	24.5	25.2	22.5	13.0
Soybean oil.....	19.0	22.5	22.1	20.7	11.8
Corn oil.....	21.0	25.0	24.6	22.6	12.8
Coconut oil 2/.....	27.0	23.0	24.4	21.8	11.1
Linseed oil 3/.....	29.5	29.0	29.1	31.9	17.8
Tung oil 4/.....	22.8	22.3	22.0	27.0	39.0
<u>MEALS 5/</u>					
	Oct. 2 60.00		Dollars per ton 62.80	86.90	62.75
Cottonseed Meal 6/.....			67.10		
Peanut meal 7/.....	62.00	66.30	67.70	88.75	67.25
Soybean meal 8/.....	62.50	81.50	84.40	91.05	66.00
Coconut meal 9/.....	89.55	82.50	82.00	84.50	59.70
Linseed meal 10/.....	59.50	64.50	66.80	89.25	59.25

1/ Crude, tanks, f.o.b. mills except noted. From Oil Paint and Drug Reporter (daily quotations) and from Fats and Oils Situation, BAE (monthly quotations).

2/ Crude, tanks, Pacific Coast.

3/ Raw, drums, carlots, N. Y.

4/ Drums, carlots, N. Y.

5/ Bagged carlots, as given in Feedstuffs (daily quotations) and Feed Situation BAE (monthly quotations).

6/ 41 percent protein, Memphis.

7/ 45 percent protein, S. E. Mills.

8/ 41 percent protein, Chicago.

9/ 19 percent protein, Los Angeles.

10/ 32 percent protein, Minneapolis, prior to May 1947; 34 percent protein after that date.

PROTEIN FIBER ENTERS INDUSTRIAL FIELD ALSO

Possibilities in the industrial field are not being overlooked by the newcomer to the synthetic fiber field, Virginia-Carolina Chemical Co., which is currently producing 7,000 lbs. a day of Vicara in the former Aralac plant at Taftville, Conn. The company, incidentally, is the first to offer a protein-fiber tow. It has one of 1,000,000 total denier containing 250,000 filaments of 4 denier each. It foresees production of regular filament yarn. Surgical dressing may become an important use of protein fiber because, unlike other fibers, the human body can easily dissolve any part of a dressing which might adhere to or be trapped within the body. In addition to a more-or-less conventional protein fiber, Virginia-Carolina reports development of a water-repellent type and of a thermo-setting fiber. The type which somewhat repels water may ultimately become the principal fiber the company will produce. It should have numerous industrial uses in addition to clothing applications. Repellency drops off above 130° F. at present. In felts, protein fibers would, of course, be combined with wool or possibly Vinyon.

SOYBEAN PROTEIN USES LISTED

For many years the soybean was little more than a curiosity in this country. Today it is a major industry—second largest cash crop in the far-flung corn belt. Its use as an animal feed has been developed to where it is one of the most important of the protein concentrates we have. In the industrial (non edible) field its continued rise gives great promise for the future. Soybean protein uses include:

Sizing and coating of paper; stabilizer for cold water paints, emulsion paints and certain printing colors; coatings and adhesives for wall boards; backing paints for floor coverings; sizing, and finishes in textiles; polishes and color finishes for leather; dispersing agents, adhesives and cord sizing in the rubber industry; synthetic fibers of the wool type; foaming agent for fire fighting fluids; printers' inks and drawing inks; sealing compounds.

J. L. Gabby, Soybean Research Council
The Cotton Gin and Oil Mill Press,
Sept. 4, 1948, p. A-12.

DRACKETT SOYBEAN OPERATIONS CONTINUE ON PILOT PLANT BASIS

Pilot plant operations continue to mark the Drackett Co.'s attempt to produce a commercial soybean fabric. The status of production hasn't changed in several months, according to Arthur H. Boylan, vice-president. He indicated that little extensive production go-ahead would be forthcoming until around the end of the year.

Daily News Record, Sept. 9, 1948, p. 39.

FORTIFICATION OF FOODS WITH AMINO ACIDS DISCUSSED

According to E. E. Howe of Merck & Co., before recent meetings of American Chemical Society in Washington and St. Louis, wholesale fortification of foods with amino acids does not appear likely, although they are lacking in some proteins and cannot be manufactured in the body. Animal feed fortification, on the other hand, was held more promising. Howe stated that soybean protein when fortified with methionine is a well-balanced protein and will probably be used in chicken feeds. Lysine, and possibly some of the other amino acids, might also be employed in fortifying the corn fed to hogs, thus reducing the amount of grain required to produce a given weight. Manufacturers of synthetic amino acids are listed in the article.

Chemical and Engineering News, Sept. 20, 1948, p. 2848.

SWEET POTATOES

Demand for sweetpotatoes in most of 1949 is expected to be fully as strong as in 1948. The small 1948 crop probably will command slightly higher prices than the average for the 1947 crop. However, prices may drop to support levels temporarily if farmers attempt to move their crop to market too fast at digging time.

Demand and Price Situation, BAE, Oct. 11, 1948.

Pulpwood men are finding it increasingly difficult to get supplies because smaller and smaller trees, down to a six-inch size, are now being used for saw-timber, and because of construction of more pulp and paper plants. Pulp supply can be increased by using more hardwoods (some Kraft mills now use as much as 10% in high strength paper and board) by using more logging and manufacturing waste (chief objection economic), by acquiring land, and by improved forestry practices including better fire protection (53 % of forest land now under organized protection).

James W. Cruikshank, in Pulpwood Stands, Procurement and Utilization, TAPPI Monograph Series No. 4, 1947, p. 52-62.

NEW INSULATING BOARD PLANT IN MISSISSIPPI

John-Manville is building a new plant at Natchez which will employ 400 to 600 people with an estimated annual payroll of \$750,000. A production of 200 million square feet of natural finish building board, decorative ceiling panels, wall plank, and insulating board sheathing from short leaf pine and hardwood trees is expected.

Southern Pulp and Paper Manufacturer, Sept. 15, 1948, p. 40.